



SISTERS OF NOTRE DAME DE NAMUR  
*Making known God's goodness*

# CROSS CONGREGATIONAL BOARD FORUM



Xaverian Brothers  
*Sponsored Schools*

## THURSDAY, MARCH 26

2:30 .....Arrival, Refreshments, Seating | Salons 5-8

3:00 pm .....Welcome

### KEYNOTE ADDRESS

3:15 pm .....**Investing in Mission: How Philanthropy and Parent Voice Can Renew Catholic Education and School Success**

*Alicia Bondanella Simon*

*Executive Vice President, FADICA Catholic Philanthropy Network*

The mission to create thriving schools is not always easy. Sustaining and growing Catholic schools is a complex task. And, as the country's largest private provider of education, Catholic schools do not have a "one-size-fits all" answer to some of its greatest challenges. Alicia Bondanella Simon will highlight the transformative potential of Catholic philanthropy when boards embrace their leadership role in fundraising. She will also share findings from a FADICA research study on parent perceptions of Catholic education revealing opportunities for creating a compelling narrative of Catholic education that attracts a wide range of audiences, including funders.

#### **Bio**

Alicia Bondanella Simon directs FADICA's philanthropy services and programs, and coordinates research and member-driven collaborative initiatives. She is a founding team leader of a Cristo Rey high school in Washington, DC, and the first youth and young adult coordinator for the USCCB's Catholic Campaign for Human Development. Alicia led FADICA's cutting-edge research on Catholic schools governance, *Breathing New Life into Catholic Schools: An Exploration of Governance Models* and on marketing and enrollment, *The Catholic School Choice*.

4:45 pm .....Break

5:00 pm .....Congregational Meetings

SNDdeN – Salon C

XBSS – Salon AB

6:00 pm .....Prayer Service | Salons 5-8

6:30 pm .....Reception/Dinner | Foyer/Salons 5-8

## FRIDAY, MARCH 27

8:45 am .....Opening Prayer | Salons 5-8

### KEYNOTE ADDRESS

9:00 am .....**From Governance to Impact: Serving as Partners in Learning/Leading**  
*Peter Hamilton and Christian Henry, Principal Founders, Narwhal Talent Partners*

Drawing on the most recent NAIS State of Independent School Governance research, this keynote session will highlight several trends that matter most to today's boards and ministry leaders. Our speakers will invite attendees into conversation to explore what the data reflects about governance practices, board culture, and the head-board partnership, connecting national trends to real-world implications for our Catholic schools/ministries. Through guided table discussions and large-group dialogue, participants will consider their own experiences and identify practical strategies to strengthen their own governance effectiveness, alignment, and impact.

10:30 am .....Break

### BREAKOUT SESSIONS

10:45 am .....**Metrics That Matter: Elevating Board Insight Through Data-Driven Decisions** | Dr. Rick Wood | Abigail Adams

**Mission Integration and Formation at the Board Level** | Julie Dowd | Salon B

**Finance Committees That Work: Structure, Strategy, and Stewardship** | Stefanie Morgan-Davis & Walter Capece | Salon C

**Enrollment Is Everyone's Responsibility – But What Does That Actually Mean?** | Charlie Drane | Salon A

11:45 am .....Lunch

12:45 pm .....**The Advancement Committee's Strategic Role in Mission Sustainability** | Amy Sullivan Berkeley, John Thornburg, Sean Hurley | Abigail Adams

**Focus on Building Trust in the Board Chair-Executive Relationship** | Christian Henry, Peter Hamilton, Narwhal Talent Partners | Salon B

**Building a Strong Board / Succession Planning: Governance Committee** | Katie Colin with Elissa Boisvert, Debra Marino & Joan Perrault | Salon A

**Ready for Strategic Planning? Essential Questions** | Melodie Wytenbach & Chris Martin | Salon C

1:45 .....Break

2:00 .....**Finance Committees That Work: Structure, Strategy, and Stewardship** | Stefanie Morgan-Davis & Walter Capece | Salon C

**Enrollment Is Everyone's Responsibility – But What Does That Actually Mean?** | Charlie Drane | Salon A

**The ROI of Financial Aid: Strengthening Mission, Enrollment, and Revenue** | Jennifer Shepherd, Client Success Manager at Clarity | Abigail Adams

**Recruiter's Playbook for a School Leadership Transition** | Christian Henry, Peter Hamilton, Narwhal | Salon B

3:00 .....Break

3:15 .....Closing Prayer/Departure | Salons 5-8